



NEWS RELEASE

August 21, 2006

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Augusta Hosts Celebrating Rural Georgia Conference

Augusta, GA – The Augusta Convention & Visitors Bureau (ACVB) and area partners are pleased to host the Georgia Rural Development Council's, 2006 Celebrating Rural Georgia Conference, in downtown Augusta, August 21-23, 2006.

Celebrating Rural Georgia (CRG) is a biennial conference that offers Georgians an opportunity to network, share new ideas and hear what their neighbors have accomplished.

The ACVB, Mayor's office, Downtown Development Authority and local representatives from the Georgia Department of Economic Development have been working together with CRG organizers to make the event a success.

The conference will attract 800 attendees and nearly 200 speakers, including many nationally-recognized experts and state and community supporters. All sessions are being held at the Marriott Hotel & Suites. In addition to education workshops attendees will also enjoy a reception at the Augusta Canal Interpretative Center, and an evening in downtown including a special event at the Imperial Theatre and Artist's Row. Governor Sonny Perdue is scheduled to make the conference closing remarks.

Celebrating Rural Georgia attendees are expected to generate more than \$800,000 in direct visitor spending.

For more information or to arrange an interview, contact ACVB President & CEO, Barry White or DDA Director Margaret Woodard at (706) 722-8000.

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